

September 1, 2020



AFGC Avenues and Adventures

Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.



(A member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.)

Volume 3, Issue 14



Greetings from our AFGC President, 2019-2021



Nancy Rana, AFGC Pres.

Greetings to my fellow gardeners,

I can hardly believe that it is September and that fall is quickly approaching. Have you thought about saving your seeds? It really is as easy as one, two, three!

Step One – Decide which plants you would like to collect seeds from such as marigolds or zinnias. Wait until the flowers have faded and the seeds have turned black or the pods have opened. Lay them out to dry completely for a few days.

Step Two – Time to clean the seeds! If they come from a pod, usually no cleaning is necessary. If the seeds still have flower parts or chaff, you have to separate the seeds from the chaff. Tip - you can rub tough or small seeds between two pieces of wood.

Step Three- Separate and Store! Separate large seeds by hand. Smaller seeds can be placed in a plastic bag. As you shake the bag, you will see the seeds sinking to the bottom. Store your seeds in an air-tight container or plastic bag. Remember to keep them in a cool, dry, and dark area.

The Arkansas Flower and Garden Show has been cancelled for 2021. Our Flower Show committee is working on ideas for the AFGC flower show. There is a possibility that it will be held in conjunction with our annual convention in April. The NW District will be hosting the event in Conway. We will keep you posted.

I hope all of you are staying healthy and safe. Please stay in touch with your club members. Have you thought about using one of the program ideas listed in *The Arkansas Gardener* for a meeting? The suggestion for September gives directions for creating a terrarium. Please share your ideas and the creative ways in which you are conducting meetings. We learn so much from one another. I look forward to hearing from you.

Fondly,

Nancy

CLUB STATS

47 clubs paid dues
8 clubs late: 2 in NE, 5 in NW, 1 in SW; will be notified
Total members = 1,194 as of 9/1/2020



Inside this issue:

<i>Plans for 2020-2021</i>	2
<i>CAIS Bulb Sale (Iris)</i>	2
<i>Night Blooming Plants</i>	2
<i>9/11 Garden in St. Louis</i>	3
<i>Fragrant Indoor Plants</i>	4
<i>Youth Contests</i>	4
<i>CORRECTION</i>	4
<i>Website Info</i>	4

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Dues for 2020-2021 are
\$6.00 per member
Send to above address

PLANS FOR 2020-2021

It is our hope that the clubs of AFGC have their plans for the new year lined up and members are ready to try some new learning techniques. Let's hang in there and let our creative juices flow.

Many of us had more time in the spring to work in our gardens and have enjoyed the results during the summer. With fall approaching, many of you are already anxious for the cooler days to arrive. How many of you have already decided what and where you will be planting? In spite of the pandemic and the sadness it brings, our hope for a productive fall and winter awaits us. Let's make use of the "at home" days and enjoy trying some new ideas and projects.

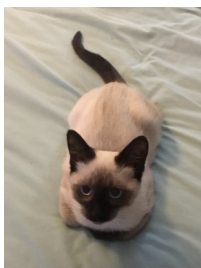
Feel free to share some of your ideas and successes with me. I'd love to mention them in the next issues of *AFGC Avenues and Adventures*. You may e-mail photos, also.

Have any of you thought of making Christmas gifts for friends or family? I planted a container of basil, so I've selected a Basil Vinegar Dressing recipe to prepare and share with neighbors.

I completed a Thomas Kincade Christmas Puzzle. I plan to have it framed and give as a gift to my sister. I'm hoping she has a place to hang just one more thing.



Oh, and if you are looking for something to pass the time while you are entertaining yourself at home, foster a kitten. I found one about six weeks ago in my back yard. Folks in my neighborhood had been feeding her for two weeks, but no one could catch her. Well, guess who got lucky? (HA!) I now have a wild little girl, Molly Brown, who eats well, plays hard, and sleeps all night.



—Submitted by Bobbie Verser, bobbieverser@att.net

CENTRAL ARKANSAS IRIS SOCIETY

Largest Rhizome Sale

Sat., Sept. 12th, 8am-noon

Unitarian Universalist Church

1818 Reservoir Rd., LR

Mask needed to shop

656-7258

(Please note the LOCATION CHANGE)



NIGHT BLOOMING PLANTS...

Chocolate Daisy, zones 5-11

Queen of the Night, zones 9-12

Datura, zones 5-7 as annual

Evening Primrose, zone 4-8

Casa Blanca Lily, zones 5-10

Gardenia Augusta, zones 11a

(a good houseplant)

Moonflowers, zones 10-11 perennial

zone 9, annual

Night Gladiolus, zone 7-10

Dragon Fruit Flowers Zones 10a-11

Four O' Clocks, perennial in 7-10

Nottingham Catchfly, zones 6-10

Night Blooming Water Lilies, zones 9 or 10

Polianthes Tuberosa, zones 7-10

9/11 GARDEN IN ST. LOUIS



Visit this beautiful garden at National Garden Clubs Headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri. The September 11th Memorial Garden is located at the end of the wall extending from Kellogg Hall. The 16-foot-wide garden incorporates a number of symbolic meanings, representing the sites where so many fellow citizens, as well as individuals of other countries were killed on September 11, 2001. A low, pentagon-shaped hedge of Green Velvet boxwood surrounds two flagpoles representing the twin towers of the World Trade Center and a slightly higher hedge in the form of the Pennsylvania keystone. The area between the two hedges is planted with massed annuals.

This garden is a beautiful and fitting memorial of all who lost their lives on that terrible day and will assure that they are never forgotten. The garden was made possible by the generous support of the members of National Garden Clubs, Inc. The dedication on May 16, 2004, was part of the 75th Anniversary Celebration of National Garden Clubs during their annual convention held in St. Louis.

A visit to St. Louis is not complete without a tour of the Missouri Botanical Gardens. NGC Headquarters is located on 6.2 acres adjacent to the botanical gardens. So a full day could be spent in this area enjoying gardening at its best.

If you are unable to attend an in-person garden club meeting in September, we invite you to enjoy a tutorial video. Google: Miniature Garden Under Glass –Youtube. Presenter is Katherine Newman. 18:56 minutes.



12 BEST FRAGRANT INDOOR PLANTS

'Crown Jewel' Gardenia, (pictured above)
place near bright light near S, E, or W window

'Arp' Rosemary, avoid overwatering

'Fudingzhu' Sweet Olive, place near S, E, or
W window

Azores Jasmine, place near southern-facing
window

'Marino Blue' Heliotrope, flowers year-round

Spearmint, place near sunny window

Night Blooming Jasmine, near sunny southern
window

'Silverdrop' Eucalyptus, high light near sunny
southern facing window

Corsican Mint, near sunny window

Lemon Balm, near bright light

'Bandera Purple' - Spanish Lavender, need
high light

Lily of the Valley, enjoy inside then plant out-
doors in spring

YOUTH CONTESTS

Our youth contest Chairmen are asking you to begin thinking right away about how and when students and teachers will be contacted and given information about our youth contests. Students have all sorts of schedules and the teachers must be overwhelmed with planning in-person, as well as virtual classes. Let's be thoughtful and understanding of the situations they are in as school begins. There may not be a good time to suggest anything to them. And then on the other hand, they may welcome an assignment that could be done at home. All we can ask is that we all do our best.

CORRECTION:

Last year club presidents were notified that NGC would no longer accept donations for Natural Disasters as of Oct. 2019. That was a mistake.

The actual announcement was NGC is no longer accepting funds for NGC International Disaster Fund. (I was not aware that we had such a fund). After reading *Keeping in Touch* (Sept./Oct. issue), I realized something was not right.

So, please put **NATURAL DISASTERS** on your list of NGC funds we'd like to support.

Sorry for the error. —*Bobbie Verser*

Members of the 2021 Flower and Garden Show have cancelled the event.

WEBSITE INFORMATION

National Garden Clubs, gardenclub.org

Keeping in Touch (Sept./Oct., issue)

The National Gardener (summer issue,
July, August, September)

South Central Region, scrgardenclubs.org

The Communicator

Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs,
arkansasfgc.net

AFGC Avenues and Adventures (Sept. issue)